

Proposed Solutions EM II (5EPB0) - Plane Waves

1) Plane Waves. Derive the Helmholtz equation (the wave equation) from Maxwell's equations. Verify that the plane wave $\underline{E} = \underline{A}e^{-jkz}$ and its associated magnetic field are solutions of Maxwell's equations.

a.

Assumptions:

- source-free region
- medium is:
 - LTI
 - homogeneous
 - isotropic
 - unbounded

$$\begin{aligned}
 \nabla \times \vec{E} &= -j\omega\vec{B} - \vec{k} \\
 \nabla \times \vec{H} &= j\omega\vec{D} + \vec{J} \\
 \nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{E} &= \nabla \times (-j\omega\mu\vec{H}) \\
 \nabla (\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} &= -j\omega\mu\nabla \times \vec{H} \\
 -\nabla^2 \vec{E} &= \omega^2\epsilon\mu\vec{E}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2 \vec{E} + k^2 \vec{E} = \vec{0}$$

Analogous for \vec{H}

b.

$\vec{E} = \vec{A}e^{-jkz}$ with associated magnetic field $\vec{H} = \frac{1}{Z}\vec{a}_z \times \vec{A}e^{-jkz}$

(Faraday):

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{see slide \#8}}}{-jk}\vec{a}_z \times \vec{A}e^{-jkz} = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ k=\frac{\omega}{c}=\frac{\omega\mu}{Z}}}{\frac{-j\omega\mu}{Z}}\vec{a}_z \times \vec{A}e^{-jkz}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -j\omega\mu\vec{H} = -j\omega\vec{B}$$

Analogous for Ampère

2) Plane Waves. Prove that, under the assumption of a plane wave, Maxwell's equations become algebraic.

First steps in slide #8 of lecture 5a:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \times \vec{E} &= \nabla e^{-j\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} \times \vec{A} = [(\partial_x \vec{a}_x + \partial_y \vec{a}_y + \partial_z \vec{a}_z) e^{-j(k_x x + k_y y + k_z z)}] \times \vec{A} \\ &= \left[-jk_x \vec{a}_x e^{-j\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} - jk_y \vec{a}_y e^{-j\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} - jk_z \vec{a}_z e^{-j\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} \right] \times \vec{A} \\ &= -jk \times \underbrace{\vec{A} e^{-j\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}}}_{\vec{E}} = -j\vec{k} \times \vec{E} = \underbrace{-j\omega\mu\vec{H}}_{\text{Faraday's law}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \vec{k} \times \vec{E} = \omega\mu\vec{H}$$

Analogous with Ampère's law

3) Plane Waves. The electric field of a uniform plane wave travelling in a medium with magnetic permeability $\mu = \mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7}$ H/m is of the form:

$$\underline{E}(r, t) = 10 \exp(j(4\pi \times 10^6 t - 4\pi \times 10^{-2} z)) \mathbf{a}_x \quad \text{V/m.} \quad (1)$$

Indicate:

a. The direction and sense of propagation.

+z (in the positive \vec{a}_z)

b. The type of wave (travelling, evanescent, etc.).

$k \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow$ travelling wave

c. If the medium in which it propagates is a lossless or a lossy one.

$k \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow$ lossless

And calculate:

d. The frequency f.

$$\omega = 4\pi 10^6 \text{ rad/s} = 2\pi f \Rightarrow f = 2 \text{ MHz}$$

e. The wavenumber k.

$$k = 4\pi 10^{-2} \text{ rad/m}$$

f. The wavelength λ .

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \Rightarrow \lambda = 50 \text{ m}$$

g. The speed of the wave in that medium.

$$c = \lambda f \Rightarrow c = 100 \text{ Mm/s} = \frac{c_0}{3}$$

h. The electric permittivity ε .

$$c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon\mu}} \Rightarrow \varepsilon = \frac{1}{4\pi} 10^{-9} \text{ F/m}$$

i. The wave impedance Z .

$$Z = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\varepsilon}} = 40\pi \Omega$$

j. The magnetic field $\underline{H}(\underline{r}, t)$.

$$\vec{H}(\vec{r}, t) = \vec{H}(\vec{z}, t) \text{ (we omit from now on the } e^{j\omega t} \text{ dependence)}$$

Three possible way to do this:

$$1) \text{ Apply Faraday's law } \nabla \vec{E} = -j\omega\mu\vec{H}$$

$$2) \text{ Knowing that under PW conditions } \vec{k} \times \vec{E} = \omega\mu\vec{H}$$

$$3) \text{ Knowing the \underline{physics} of PW: } \vec{E} \perp \vec{H} \wedge \vec{k} \perp \vec{H} \wedge |\vec{E}| = Z|\vec{H}|$$

for 2)

$$\vec{H} = \frac{1}{\omega\mu} \vec{k} \times \vec{E} \quad \text{with } \vec{k} = k\vec{a}_z$$

$$\vec{H} = \frac{10}{\omega\mu} k e^{-jkz} \underbrace{(\vec{a}_z \times \vec{a}_x)}_{\vec{a}_y} = \frac{10}{\omega\mu} k e^{-jkz} \vec{a}_y = \vec{H}$$

k. The time-averaged power density.

$$\vec{S}_h = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \left\{ \vec{E} \times \vec{H}^* \right\} = \frac{10^2}{2} \frac{k}{\mu\omega} \vec{a}_z$$

4) Energy considerations of plane waves. Consider a plane wave propagating in an arbitrary direction in a lossless medium.

$$\vec{E} = \vec{A} e^{-j\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}}; \quad \vec{H} = \frac{\vec{k} \times \vec{E}}{\omega\mu}$$

a. Prove that for such a plane wave, the electric energy density $w_e = \varepsilon^* \underline{E} \cdot \underline{E}^*$ is identical to the magnetic energy density $w_m = \mu \underline{H} \cdot \underline{H}^*$.

$$w_e = \varepsilon \vec{E} \cdot \vec{E}$$

$$\begin{aligned} w_m &= \mu \vec{H} \cdot \vec{H} = \mu \left(\frac{\vec{k} \times \vec{E}}{\omega \mu} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{\vec{k} \times \vec{E}}{\omega \mu} \right) = \frac{1}{\omega^2 \mu} (\vec{k} \times \vec{E}) \cdot (\vec{k} \times \vec{E}) = \\ &= \frac{1}{\omega^2 \mu} \underbrace{[(\vec{E} \times (\vec{k} \times \vec{E}))] \cdot \vec{k}}_{(A.6)} = \frac{1}{\omega^2 \mu} \underbrace{[(\vec{E} \cdot \vec{E})\vec{k} - (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{k})\vec{E}]}_{(A.7)} \cdot \vec{k} \\ &= \frac{\omega^2 \varepsilon \mu}{\omega^2 \mu} \vec{E} \cdot \vec{E} = \varepsilon \vec{E} \cdot \vec{E} = w_e \end{aligned}$$

b. Knowing that $w_e = w_m$ and knowing the basic assumptions for the plane wave, make the proper substitutions in the Poynting theorem (power balance) and discuss the results.

$w_e = w_m$ and source-free medium \Rightarrow Poynting theorem reduces to:

$$\oint \vec{E} \times \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{S} = 0$$

or, equivalently

$$\nabla \cdot (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) = 0 \quad (\text{prove!})$$

Therefore plane waves are solenoidal (no sources or sinks). For any closed surface in space, the net flux of power flow is zero. Power flows in the same direction of propagation (!)

c. Prove that for a plane wave that travels in the $+z$ direction $\mathbf{S} = cw_e \mathbf{a}_z = cw_m \mathbf{a}_z$, with c being the speed of propagation. You can assume a lossless medium. Provide a physical interpretation.

$$\omega_m = \mu \vec{H} \cdot \vec{H}; \quad \vec{k} = k \vec{a}_z$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{S} &= \vec{E} \times \vec{H} = \vec{E} \times \left(\frac{\vec{k} \times \vec{E}}{\omega \mu} \right) = \frac{1}{\omega \mu} [(\vec{E} \cdot \vec{E})\vec{k} - (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{k})\vec{E}] \\ &= \frac{\omega \sqrt{\varepsilon \mu}}{\omega \mu} \vec{E} \cdot \vec{E} \vec{a}_z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon \mu}} \varepsilon \vec{E} \cdot \vec{E} = cw_e \vec{a}_z = cw_m \vec{a}_z \end{aligned}$$

Book. 11.5 a) - 11.10 a) - 11.29 - 11.34

odd-numbered problems have solutions in the book

11.10 a

$$\vec{E}_s = |R| [H_{0z} \vec{a}_y - H_{0z} \vec{a}_z] e^{-\alpha x} e^{-j\beta x} e^{j0}$$

11.30 a linear polarization \rightarrow x and y components are in-phase

$$\Rightarrow \Delta\beta z = m\pi \Rightarrow z = \frac{m\pi}{\Delta\beta} \quad (m \in \mathbb{I})$$

11.30 b Circular polarization \rightarrow x and y components in quadrature

$$\Rightarrow \Delta\beta z = \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{2} \Rightarrow z = \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{2\Delta\beta} \quad (n \in \mathbb{I})$$

11.30 c

$$H_s(z) = \frac{E_0}{Z} (\vec{a}_y - \vec{a}_x e^{-j\Delta\beta z}) e^{-j\beta z}$$

$$\langle \vec{S} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \left\{ \vec{E}_s \times \vec{H}_s^* \right\} = \frac{E_0^2}{z} \vec{a}_z \text{ W/m}^2$$

11.32 If L is doubled \Rightarrow the phase difference is π rad.

$$\vec{E}_s(L) = E_0 (e^{j\beta_x L} \vec{a}_x + e^{-j\beta_y L} \vec{a}_y) = E_0 e^{-j\beta_x L} (\vec{a}_x + e^{-j(\beta_y - \beta_x)L} \vec{a}_y)$$

$$(\beta_y - \beta_x)L = -\pi \quad (\beta_x > \beta_y)$$

the y-component is reversed, the wave polarization is rotated 90°, but still is linearly-polarized

11.34 a Adding the two fields

$$\vec{E}_{tot} = [E_{x0}(1 + e^{j\delta})\vec{a}_x + E_{y0}(e^{j\phi} + e^{-j\phi+j\delta})\vec{a}_y] e^{-j\beta z}$$

using some well-known trigonometric identities, we can get:

$$\vec{E}_{tot} = [E_{x0}e^{j\delta/2}2\cos(\delta/2)\vec{a}_x + E_{y0}e^{j\delta/2}2\cos(\phi - \delta/2)\vec{a}_y] e^{-j\beta z}$$

which is linearly polarized.

11.34 b $E_y = 0$ for $2\phi - \delta = \pi$